CLAIMS

1. An optical component holding unit capable of housing and holding an optical component, comprising:

an opening portion for allowing passage of light and a fitting shape capable of coupling optical component holding units adjacent in the direction of the light detachably to each other,

the fitting shape comprising:

a positioning fitting shape for forming or surrounding the opening portion to position the optical component holding units with respect to each other; and

an anti-rotation fitting shape for preventing relative rotation between the optical component holding units.

2. The optical component holding unit according to claim 1, wherein the positioning fitting shape and the anti-rotation fitting shape comprise a cross-sectionally noncircular-shaped noncircular hole or noncircular convex portion for forming or surrounding the opening portion.

3. The optical component holding unit according to claim 1, wherein

the positioning fitting shape comprises a cross-sectionally circular-shaped circular hole or circular convex portion for forming or surrounding the opening portion, and

the anti-rotation fitting shape comprises at least either a fitting pin or a fitting hole.

4. The optical component holding unit according to claim 2, wherein the positioning fitting shape further comprises a cross-

sectionally circular-shaped circular hole or circular convex portion for forming or surrounding the opening portion.

5. The optical component holding unit according to claim 4, wherein the anti-rotation fitting shape further comprises at least either a fitting pin or a fitting hole.

6. The optical component holding unit according to any of claims 1 to 5, being a block body.

7. The optical component holding unit according to any of claims 1 to 6, further comprising:

an insertion port capable of inserting the optical component therethrough; and

a cover for opening and closing the insertion port.

8. The optical component holding unit according to any of claims 1 to 7, adapted to be arranged and coupled into an optical component holding unit array and comprising:

an opening portion for allowing passage of incident light to the optical component; and

an opening portion for allowing passage of output light from the optical component.

9. The optical component holding unit according to any of claims 1 to 7, adapted to be arranged and coupled at the beginning of an optical component holding unit array and comprising an opening portion for allowing passage of output light from the optical component.

10. The optical component holding unit according to any of claims 1 to 7, adapted to be arranged and coupled at the terminal of an optical component holding unit array and comprising an opening

portion for allowing passage of incident light to the optical component.